

Message Text

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43

ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 AID-05 FDRE-00 OMB-01

EB-07 DODE-00 HEW-06 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00

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R 011632Z APR 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1758

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

UNCLAS GENEVA 2226

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, XC

SUBJECT RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN INDOCHINA

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF RECENT WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES PRESS
RELEASE CONCERNING WCC'S PLANNED RELIEF ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR DISPLACED PERSONS AND REFUGEES IN INDOCHINA.

QUOTE: CHURCH AGENCIES AND RELIEF SERVICES WORLD-WIDE HAVE
BEEN ASKED FOR \$1 MILLION IN AN EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR REFUGEES
IN SOUTH VIETNAM LAUNCHED TODAY BY THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

THE WCC'S COMMISSION ON INTERCHURCH AID, REFUGEE AND
WORLDSERVICE (CICARWS) REPORTS THE SITUATION IN INDOCHINA IS
CHANGING HOURLY AND CREATING AN IMMENSE HUMAN TRAGEDY.
THE EVACUATION OF THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AND OTHER AREAS BY
SOUTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS HAS SET IN MOTION A GIGANTIC
STREAM OF DISPLACED PERSONS. MORE THAN A MILLION PEOPLE
HAVE BEEN AFFECTED IN SOUTH VIETNAM SO FAR. IN ADDITION
THERE IS THE PLIGHT OF KHMER REFUGEES LEAVING CAMBODIA
FOR THAILAND. CICARWS IS IN COMMUNICATION WITH THE
WCC'S FUND FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND RECONCILIATION IN
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INDOCHINA, WHICH IS HEADQUARTERED IN BANGKOK, AND WITH

THE ASIAN CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND VIETNAM CHRISTIAN SERVICE
OF SINGAPORE AND SAIGON RESPECTIVELY.

ACS PLANS IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY SUPPLIES OF RICE,
DRIED FISH, PLASTIC SHEETING, MEDICINES, AND CLOTHING FOR
DISTRIBUTION IN TUY HOA, NHA TRANG, SAIGON AND OTHER
CENTRES AND HAS ESTIMATED INITIAL NEEDS AT \$300,000.
VIETNAM CHRISTIAN SERVICE HAS AUTHORIZED THE USE OF
\$200,000 FOR REFUGEES IN ANY PART OF VIETNAM. IT IS UN-
CLEAR HOW LONG THESE AGENCIES WILL BE ABLE TO OPERATE, ROAD
COMMUNICATIONS BEING FOR THE MOST PART IMPOSSIBLE AND
AIR TRANSPORT LIMITED.

THE FUND FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND RECONCILIATION
ESTIMATES IMMEDIATE AID REQUIREMENTS IN AREAS UNDER
THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT AT \$250,000.
THE THAI CHURCHES HAVE BEEN ALERTED FOR AID ACTION TO
KHMER REFUGEES.

THE CICARWS EMERGENCY APPEAL IS FOR AN "INITIAL"
\$1 MILLION, ACTING DIRECTOR JEAN FISCHER POINTED OUT.
"THE NEED IS URGENT AND THE PEOPLE AFFECTED ARE DESPERATE.
LOCAL AID AGENCIES IN THE AREAS ARE WORKING AT CAPACITY
AND NEED OUR SUPPORT AS RAPIDLY AS WE CAN GET AID THERE,"
MR. FISCHER SAID. UNQUOTE. DALE

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